

We claim:

1. A system for broadcasting audio and visual information comprising:

at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages;

at least one visual display device for displaying visual messages;

a first computer means for recording audio and visual message components and

5 storing the message components as a plurality of digital computer files, said

first computer means generating a first signal representative of an audio

message and transmitting the first signal to said at least one audio

reproduction device, said first computer means further generating a second

signal representative of a visual message; and

10 a second computer means electrically connected to said at least one visual display

device and said first computer means, said second computer means

receiving the second signal representative of a visual message from said

first computer means and generating and transmitting a corresponding

electrical signal representative thereof to said at least one video display

15 device.

2. A system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 1 further

comprising a communications bus wherein said at least one audio reproduction

device, said at least one visual display device, said first computer means and said

second computer means each further have a communications port connected to said

5 communications bus for transmission of information thereon.

3. A system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a microphone station having a keypad for generating alphanumeric characters, a visual display for viewing the alphanumeric characters, and an output for transmitting the alphanumeric characters connected to an input of said first computer means.

4. A system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 3 wherein the alphanumeric characters comprise a pre-defined message type to be broadcast and data relevant thereto.

5. A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in claim 2 further comprising a microphone station having a keypad for generating alphanumeric characters, a visual display for viewing the alphanumeric characters, and a communication port connected to said communications bus for transmitting the alphanumeric characters to said first computer means.

6. A system for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 5 wherein the alphanumeric characters comprise a pre-defined message type to be broadcast and data relevant thereto.

7. A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in claim 3 wherein said first computer means accepts an input signal representative of

5 a message to be broadcast from said microphone station and converts said input  
signal into a plurality of audio and visual message components for transmission to  
said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display  
device.

8. A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in  
claim 1 further comprising at least one information database stored in said first  
computer means, said information database comprising a plurality of message  
component variables.

9. A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video messages as claimed in claim  
2 further comprising at least one information database stored in a database server  
having a communications port connected to said communications bus, said  
information database comprising a plurality of message component variables.

10. A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video messages as claimed in claim  
1 further comprising a graphical user interface connected to said first computer  
means having a keyboard and a microphone for recording text and audio message  
components to be stored in said first computer means.

11. A system for broadcasting synchronized audio and video messages as claimed in claim  
2 further comprising a graphical user interface connected to said first computer  
means having a keyboard and a microphone for recording text and audio message

components to be stored in said first computer means.

12. A method for broadcasting audio and visual information comprising the steps of:

providing a computer means for recording audio message components input from  
a sound transducer and corresponding visual message components input  
from a user interface, and storing said message components in said  
5 information database;

assembling messages for broadcast by ordering said audio message components and  
said visual message components in said information database in a  
predetermined sequence;

providing at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages;

10 providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting visual messages; and

broadcasting said audio and visual messages over said at least one audio  
reproduction device and said at least one visual display device.

13. A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in

claim 12 further comprising the step of:

synchronizing the broadcast of said audio and visual messages.

14. A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in

claim 13 further comprising the steps of:

supplying a message type code from said user interface to said computer means,

said message type code representative of a predetermined message sequence

5 to be broadcast; and

supplying a plurality of message variables relevant to the message sequence to be

broadcast.

15. A method for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 12 wherein

the step of assembling messages for broadcast further comprises the steps of:

assigning a unique identification tag to each audio message component and each

visual message component; and

5 compiling a list of the audio message components and visual message components

by unique identification tag.

16. A method for broadcasting synchronized audio and visual information as claimed in

claim 13 wherein the step of synchronizing the broadcast of said audio and visual

messages further comprises:

separating the visual message into a plurality of text lines; and

5 scrolling the plurality of text lines on said at least one visual display in

synchronization with the broadcast of said audio message.

17. A method for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 12 wherein

said step of broadcasting said audio and visual messages over said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display device further includes selecting a predetermined broadcast zone to which said audio and visual messages are broadcast.

18. A method for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 13 wherein said step of broadcasting said audio and visual messages over said at least one audio reproduction device and said at least one visual display device further includes selecting a predetermined broadcast zone to which said audio and visual messages are broadcast.

19. A method for broadcasting audio and visual information comprising the steps of:

providing a computer means for recording audio message components input from a sound transducer and corresponding visual message components input from a user interface, and storing said message components in said information database;

assembling messages for broadcast by ordering said audio message components and said visual message components in said information database in a predetermined sequence;

providing at least one audio reproduction device for broadcasting audio messages;

providing at least one visual display device for broadcasting visual messages;

calculating a duration for each audio message component;  
 embedding the time duration of each audio message component into the  
 corresponding visual message component;  
 synchronizing the broadcast of said visual messages with said audio messages by  
 calculating a scroll rate for said visual messages on said at least one visual  
 display device using the embedded time duration of each corresponding  
 audio message component; and  
 broadcasting said audio and visual messages over said at least one audio  
 reproduction device and said at least one visual display device.

20. A method for broadcasting audio and visual information as claimed in claim 19 wherein  
 the step of assembling messages for broadcast further comprises the steps of:  
 assigning a unique identification tag to each audio message component and each  
 visual message component; and  
 compiling a list of the audio message components and visual message components  
 by unique identification tag.